

From: Jim\_Henry@bstz.com  
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To: eReference  
Subject: Comment--Requiring Secure Access

The United States Patent and Trademark Office plan to cease mailing copies of US patent references with Office actions and to rely on the ePatent Reference feature provided through private side PAIR makes it mandatory that patent filers be able to establish a secure network connection to the USPTO to be able to conveniently access US patent references cited by an examiner.

It is not possible to access private PAIR for applications not associated with a customer number. Such applications are easily identified. I would suggest that the Office continue to mail copies of US patent references with Office actions for applications not associated with a customer number.

The Office does not presently provide the software necessary for users of Macintosh computers to make the secure connection to access private PAIR. The vendor of the USPTO Secure Web Portal Solution does provide such software and the Office should make it available.

Jim Henry